

God. The members of the church were greatly strengthened and united in love, and returned to their homes rejoicing.

Soon after the camp-meeting closed, Lorenzo Dow, with two other men, began to prepare for a journey through the Choctaw and Creek nations to the State of Georgia. As the most important item in their outfit, they wished to procure three Spanish Mustang horses, because they could subsist mainly upon grass and the leaves of the cane, and would require but little corn. For this purpose, they crossed the Mississippi River into Louisiana, and it is presumed, went into the Attakapas region, as those vast prairies were the places to find Mustangs in those days. On this trip he visited several settlements and held religious meetings.

We mention this to give it as our opinion that Lorenzo Dow was the first Methodist that ever visited and preached in Louisiana west of the Mississippi River. He doubtless reported the results of his observations on his return to Natchez, and the following year, at the earnest solicitation of Mr. Blackman, Elisha W. Bowman was appointed to Opelousas. We will not detail the many extra trials and hairbreadth escapes from flood and field which befell Mr. Dow and his traveling companions between Natchez and Georgia. It is enough for our purpose to state that he tarried six days in the settlement about the junction of the Tombigbee and the Alabama rivers, and "held meetings." Let the Alabama Methodists make a note of this. So far as we have light on the subject, Lorenzo Dow was the first Methodist preacher that raised the Gospel banner in Southern Alabama.

Upon his arrival in Georgia, after the eventful journey among the Indians, in his visit to the remote settlements of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, Dow found his friends greatly interested in a report just received by them of his marriage. But not until he assured them of its truthfulness, would they accept the report.